

Mr. FRIST. If the Senator from West Virginia will yield.

Mr. BYRD. Yes, I yield.

Mr. FRIST. People are going to begin saying the same thing about me, that laughter coming as we are here on Friday afternoon. I say I am going to speak briefly, and I go on for 45 minutes. I have a feeling I am following in Senator BYRD's footsteps.

Mr. BYRD. I thank the majority leader.

#### TRIBUTE TO SENATOR RUSSELL B. LONG

Mr. BYRD. Mr. President, Cicero was asked which of Demosthenes' speeches he most admired. Cicero's answer was: The longest. By the way, Demosthenes committed suicide. He carried some poison in a bracelet and he committed suicide. While I admire Demosthenes, I do not hope to follow his course in that regard.

The greatest oration that was ever delivered was the Oration on the Crown by Demosthenes. In that oration, he asked the question: Who deceives the State? He answered his own question. He who does not speak what he thinks.

God, give us men!

A time like this demands strong minds,  
great hearts, true faith, and ready hands.  
Men whom the lusts of office do not kill;  
Men whom the spoils of office cannot buy;  
Men who possess opinions and a will;  
Men who have honor; men who will not lie.  
Men who can stand before the demagogue  
And brave his treacherous flatteries without  
winking.

Tall men, sun-crowned;  
Who live above the fog.  
In public duty and in private thinking.  
For while the rabble with its thumbworn  
creeds,

It's large professions and its little deeds,  
mingles in selfish strife,

Lo! Freedom weeps!

Wrong rules the land and waiting justice  
sleeps.

God, give us men.

Men who serve not for selfish booty;  
But real men, courageous, who flinch not at  
duty.

Men of dependable character;  
Men of sterling worth;  
Then wrongs will be redressed, and right will  
rule the earth.

God, give us Men!

Mr. President, those lines by J. G. Holland call my reflections to a man who served in the Senate with me a good many years ago. For 38 years, Russell B. Long was a giant among the giants of the U.S. Senate. Although not a large man, his mere presence on the Senate floor was overpowering. His accomplishments were enormous, and I am confident in saying that his legacy will prove to be long lasting. He was a Senator's Senator.

He sat here in this row of seats where I now stand. Mr. Mansfield sat in the chair at the desk just in front of me. The greatest Senator of all, in my public career, was another Southerner whose name was Richard Brevard Russell, and he sat at the seat which I now

have the honor to fill. At the desk behind me was Russell B. Long.

He was a man of powerful intellect. He was a walking history blessed with common sense and a sharp, clear mind. He could keep one entertained for hours with his down-home stories, his folksy humor, and memories of his remarkable and controversial family.

His father, Huey P. Long, was called the Kingfish in Louisiana. His father was the legendary populist Governor and Senator from Louisiana, Huey Long. Russell's self-effacing mother, Rose, who Russell Long said was the "nearest thing I knew to an angel"—now that is putting it right. "The nearest thing I knew to an angel." That was Russell Long's way of referring to his mother.

His mother served briefly in the U.S. Senate following the assassination of her husband. So here you have the husband, the wife, and the son all serving in the U.S. Senate at different times, of course.

Born in Shreveport, LA, in 1918, Russell B. Long received his undergraduate and law degrees from Louisiana State University. He served as a naval officer during World War II and practiced law after the war.

On November 2, 1948, he was elected to the U.S. Senate. I was in the West Virginia House of Delegates at that time. So Russell Long was elected to the U.S. Senate 1 day before his 30th birthday, making him the sixth person to be elected to the Senate under the age of 30. When he retired from the Senate in 1986, he had served longer than all but three other Senators in history at that time.

His love for this institution and his respect for this institution's traditions were always evident. He opposed television coverage in the U.S. Senate. He and I were both together in feeling that way about it at that particular time. We both opposed television coverage in the Senate at that point.

He opposed the efforts to limit Senate filibusters. I opposed them with him. I joined in filibusters with him. And I today oppose efforts to eliminate the filibuster in the U.S. Senate, and I always will oppose those efforts.

He did so, meaning he opposed the elimination of the filibuster and any efforts to eliminate it, because he cared so much about preserving the unique role of the U.S. Senate in American Government and American society.

During his tenure in the Senate, Russell Long served on a number of important committees, including the Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee, the Banking and Currency Committee, and the Armed Services Committee.

In 1965, his Democratic colleagues elected him—and I was here at that time to cast my vote for him—to serve as the Senate Democratic whip, the post he held until 1969. I was the secretary of the Democratic conference at that particular time, and I believe I sat on the back row over here.

It was on January 10, 1966, that another legend was born, and that was the day that Senator Long became chairman of the Senate Finance Committee, a position he held for 15 years, the longest continuous service in the history of that committee. As chairman of this powerful Senate committee, Senator Long displayed such a command of the subject matter and demonstrated such skillful management abilities that during floor debates Senators would line up at his desk seeking his encyclopedic memory and knowledge about complicated tax provisions. In fact, on most of the landmark tax and trade legislation during that time one can see the imprint of this remarkable Senator, Russell Long.

His was a powerful voice on health care finance and Social Security. His genius fathered ESOP, the employee stock ownership plan concept, which enabled the workers and management at Weirton Steel in Weirton, WV, to keep the plant from closing in 1982. Russell Long went with me, and with the late Senator Jennings Randolph, my colleague at the time, to Weirton Steel and talked with the employers and employees, the people, the citizens, about the ESOP plan. That plan was applied and it preserved the jobs of 8,500 employees.

Russell Long's legislative achievements included the 1972 and 1976 Federal revenue sharing laws and the 1969 and 1976 tax reform laws. I wish he were here today. Indeed, his work on the Nation's tax laws continued throughout his years in the Senate. In 1986, his last year in this Chamber, he helped to write a major simplification of income tax law.

President Jimmy Carter liked to say that he was elected President and came to Washington to run the country but that when he got here, he discovered that Russell Long was already running it.

Senator Long's colleague from Louisiana at that time, Senator Bennett Johnson, used to point out that President Carter was probably exaggerating but not by much.

Russell Long's success as a Senator is largely attributable to his skills as a debater and speaker, and his skills as a technician and craftsman in the writing of tax laws. These are skills which he likely inherited from his dynamic father. Those skills included his formidable ability as one of the Senate's best negotiators.

President John F. Kennedy once told him:

You traded me a biscuit for a barrel of flour and I didn't even get a biscuit.

Following the Republican landslide of 1980 in which Ronald Reagan was elected President and the Republican Party gained the majority in the Senate, Senator Howard Baker, who had become the new Senate majority leader, telephoned Senator Robert Dole to congratulate Senator Dole on his new role as chairman of the Senate Finance Committee. The story goes that Senator Dole responded:

Howard, that is great, but who is going to tell Russell Long?

I enjoy that story. It demonstrates both the power and the respect that Senator Russell Long commanded as a U.S. Senator and as chairman of the Senate Finance Committee. No wonder the Wall Street Journal once referred to Russell Long as the fourth branch of Government. Journalists, as well as Presidents and Senators, revered and enjoyed this colorful man, and brilliant Senator. During his 38 years in the Senate, Russell B. Long truly became an institution within this institution.

I missed Russell Long when he left the Senate. Erma and I missed his lovely wife Carolyn. I called Carolyn a few minutes ago to speak with her about her late husband Russell Long. I told her I was going to have a few words to say about Russell, and I asked her to listen in if she liked.

I close this short statement about Russell Long with a poem by Thomas Moore, that great Irishman. The title of the poem is "The Light of Other Days."

I dedicate these words by Thomas Moore to Carolyn, and in so doing, of course, I think about my own service in this Chamber with Russell Long.

Oft, in the stilly night,  
Ere slumber's chain as bound me,  
Fond memory brings the light  
Of other days around me;  
The smiles, the tears,  
Of boyhood's years,  
The words of love then spoken;  
The ayes that shone,  
Now dimm'd and gone,  
The cheerful hearts now broken.  
Thus, in the stilly night,  
Ere slumber's chain has bound me,  
Sad memory brings the light  
Of other days around me.  
When I remember all  
The friends, so link'd together,  
I've seen around me fall  
Like leaves in wintry weather.  
I feel like one  
Who treads alone  
Some banquet-hall deserted,  
Whose lights are fled,  
Whose garland's dead,  
And all but he departed.  
Thus, in the stilly night,  
Ere slumber's chain has bound me,  
Sad Memory brings the light  
Of other days around me.

#### HAPPY 140TH BIRTHDAY, WEST VIRGINIA

Mr. BYRD. Mr. President, today is the 140th birthday of West Virginia:

West Virginia, how I love you!  
Every streamlet, shrub and stone,  
Even the clouds that flit above you  
Always seem to be my own.  
Your steep hillsides clad in grandeur,  
Always rugged, bold and free,  
Sing with ever swelling chorus:  
Montani, Semper, Liberi!  
Always free! The little streamlets,  
As they glide and race along,  
Join their music to the anthem  
And the zephyrs swell the song.  
Always free! The mountain torrent  
In its haste to reach the sea,  
Shouts its challenge to the hillsides

And the echo answers "FREE!"

Always free! Repeats the river  
In a deeper, fuller tone  
And the West wind in the treetops  
Adds a chorus all its own.

Always Free! The crashing thunder,  
Madly flung from hill to hill,  
In a wild reverberation  
Makes our hearts with rapture fill.

Always free! The Bob White whistles  
And the whippoorwill replies,  
Always free! The robin twitters  
As the sunset gilds the skies.

Perched upon the tallest timber,  
Far above the sheltered lea,  
There the eagle screams defiance  
To a hostile world: "I'm free!"

And two million happy people,  
Hearts attuned in holy glee,  
Add the hallelujah chorus:  
"Mountaineers are always free!"

It is that time of year again.

It is that time when the flowers are in full bloom and birds are chirping the sweetest and the loudest. It is that time when you feel most like breathing the clean, fresh air blowing in from the Appalachian mountains. The time of year when you feel most like taking your loved one by the hand and strolling, arm in arm, through your favorite park knowing that all is right with the world—and all is right with the world because it is West Virginia Day!

June 20 is West Virginia Day. I am celebrating this glorious day. It was 140 years ago that West Virginia became a State. It was on June 20, 1863, the Reverend J.T. McLure offered the State's inaugural prayer. Referring to the fact that the State was created in the middle of the American Civil War, he prayed:

We pray Thee, almighty God, that this State, born amidst tears and blood and fire and desolation, may long be preserved and from its little beginning may grow to be a might and a power that shall make those who come after us look upon it with joy and gladness and pride of heart.

I am pleased and proud to say, 140 years later, that I can look upon my West Virginia with "joy and gladness and pride of heart." On this West Virginia Day, I again want to speak about the people of West Virginia, the hardest-working and most patriotic people in the United States. They have endured hardships, poverty, and floods of biblical proportions, but have remained loyal to their State and our Nation. Whenever the country has needed them, in war or in peace, they have always been there, and I have always been so proud to represent them in the United States Senate.

On this West Virginia Day, I again speak about the splendors of my State—truly one of the most beautiful states in the Nation. With its rushing, trout-filled mountain streams, its majestic rolling green hills, picturesque villages and towns, magnificent forests, scenic state parks—no wonder the State has been depicted in song and verse as being "almost heaven." There are the State's natural beauties like Seneca Rocks and the New River Gorge. I hope the pages will go and see

these scenic beauties in this State that is almost heaven. There are the State's natural wonders like Cranberry Glades, Hawks Nest, and Berkeley Springs.

You can go camping in West Virginia's beautiful parks like Cooper's Rock State Forest, Babcock, Pipestem, or Watoga. You can go fishing in the Greenbrier River, Holly River, and Tygart Lake. You can take a ski trip in the wondrous Canaan Valley, or go white-water rafting down the magnificent Cheat River, go hiking along the awesome Appalachian Trail.

Simply drive around the State and enjoy a pace and a view far different than the drives most of us suffer through daily. I invite my colleagues, I invite the media, I invite the people in the galleries, people everywhere, to take a drive in West Virginia. You will love it. You will never forget it. There is nothing like it elsewhere in the world. West Virginia. Almost heaven.

I invite the Democratic pages and the Republican pages, our staffs. I have often spoken enthusiastically of the "wild and wonderful" scenery of West Virginia. Therefore, on this, the 140th anniversary of my great and glorious State, I want to tell you about its history.

Some of my State's history is well-known and well-documented; like the fact that it is the only State created from another State without the parent State's permission, and that it is the only State to achieve statehood by the proclamation of a president, Abraham Lincoln. It can be argued that the first battle of the American Revolution took place at Point Pleasant and that the last battle of the Revolution was fought at Fort Henry, in Wheeling. The State is rich in Civil War history; at Harpers Ferry, John Brown began the bloody quest to finally eliminate the scourge of slavery from this nation, and the first significant land battle of the Civil War took place at Phillippi, on June 3, 1861.

But there is another, lesser known, side to my State's history that I want to talk about today—a history that shows what a unique, diversified, and fascinating state West Virginia really is.

Most of my colleagues are aware that West Virginia's political history includes providing the Senate's Majority Leader, the Senate's Minority Leader, the chairman of the Senate Appropriation's Committee, and the second longest serving Senator in American history—and that was all one person—who? Me. But I proudly point out that my State's political history includes the first African American woman, Minnie Buckingham Harper of Welch, to ever serve in a State legislature. That was in 1928. In 1934, West Virginians elected one of the youngest persons ever elected by popular vote to the United States Senate—Rush D. Holt. His son, Rush Holt, now represents the State of New Jersey in the House of Representatives.

Most people are aware of the importance of coal to West Virginia, and the